

SERVING SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS IN THE LAKE UNION SINCE 1908

HERALD

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

E=MC²

Evangelism = Mission x Community²

The Audacious Youth Evangelism Experiment

ILLINOIS MEMBERS
ILLINOIS FOCUS
INSIDE



This month's *Herald* places emphasis on youth and youth evangelism, the gospel shared by and for youth. One might think that these kinds of stories would almost write themselves. After all, they involve those in their most energetic years ministering to like-minded peers with camera-ready lives. One might even expect shallow and cosmetic tales of young people going through the motions of evangelism. Not so.

As I poured over the articles, the words of one statement kept playing in my head like that lilting melody that your mind just cannot dislodge.

"The enemy well knows that there is no class who can do as much good as young men and young women consecrated to God's service" (*The Youth's Instructor*, January 1, 1907, pg. 2, paragraph 4 of "Privileges and Opportunities of Youth").

This statement is a sobering one, filled with a sense of God's vision for youth and the empowerment that accompanies this responsibility. Let the melody of the quote play for you as you pray for our youth. ■

Debbie

Debbie Michel
Editor, Lake Union Herald



ONLINE NEWS

On Sunday, Sept. 19, the Lake Region Executive Committee members voted to elect Garth Gabriel as president of the Lake Region Conference for the remainder of the 2018–2022 term. Gabriel has been serving as interim president since the departure of R. Clifford Jones who was called to serve at Oakwood University.



Indiana Conference held its constituency session on Sunday, Sept. 26, and re-elected Vic Van Schaik, president; Mark Eaton, secretary/treasurer; Peter Cousins, superintendent of Education; Vialo Weis, director for Stewardship, Planned Giving and Trust Services, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty; Harvey Kornegay, Ministerial director; Charlie Thompson, Youth director.



A dedication ceremony was held September 18 to celebrate the purchase of a building to house the Beloit Hispanic Company. Thanks to donations, support from the Lake Union and Wisconsin conferences, the building is paid in full. Cutting the ribbon were Wisconsin Conference leadership, from left to right, Hispanic coordinator Evelio Miranda; president Titus Naftanaila and secretary/treasurer Brian Stephan.



Jay Johnson, PhD, Andrews University professor of Engineering, was awarded the Shen Kuo Award for Interdisciplinary Achievements from the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA). Scientists within the IAGA study the magnetic and electrical properties of planets.



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The Audacious Youth Evangelism Experiment

By Debbie Michel

ON THIS PAGE: ILLINOIS YOUTH DIRECTOR MICHAEL CAMPOS
AT THE 2020 LAKE UNION YOUTH EVANGELISM CONGRESS

The *Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly (except for January/February, June/July and November/December) by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, Michigan, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$12.50. Vol. 113, No. 9. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: *Lake Union Herald*, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287.

ADDRESS CORRECTION Only paid subscribers (see below) should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members should contact their local church clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Contact phone numbers and our mailing address are listed below for your convenience. Online submissions can be made at <https://www.lakeunionherald.com/contact>.

Lake Union Herald office: 269-473-8242
Lake Region: 773-846-2661
Illinois: 630-716-3505

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Indiana: 317-844-6201
Wisconsin: 920-484-6555

Members outside the Lake Union may subscribe by sending a check for \$12.50 (per year) to P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287.

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Prioritizing Our Youth

At a recent conference constituency session, participants took a few moments to test the electronic voting system by responding to several multiple-choice questions. One question stood out to me: “Please select the age group to which you belong.”



▲ Ken Denslow

Delegates could respond to one of several age categories, the last of which was “60 and over.” The “60 and over” category was by far the largest group among the delegates.

Now, I have nothing against those who are over the age of 60. I happen to be one of them. But I am concerned about the smallest group: the young adults. As the age dropped, so did their numbers.

This scenario is not unique; rather, it is repeated over and over everywhere. We deliberate over where the youth and young adults have gone, but this is not a new question. Two decades ago, I remember sitting in a Lake Union committee where we listened to a group of college students plead with us to help them keep their friends connected to the church. Although we were moved by their appeal, we didn’t move the needle of change.

Yet, there is hope. Studies indicate that Christian young people are more interested in establishing authentic and transparent relationships with the Savior and with fellow believers than they are in the traditions or institutions of the church. We see that they want to connect with others in meaningful ways.

Several ongoing initiatives in North America have been developed in response, including Growing Young Again (GYA), a project based

on intergenerational conversation. This project emphasizes mentoring young people and helping them move into significant church community roles NOW. This program promises a significant long-term impact.

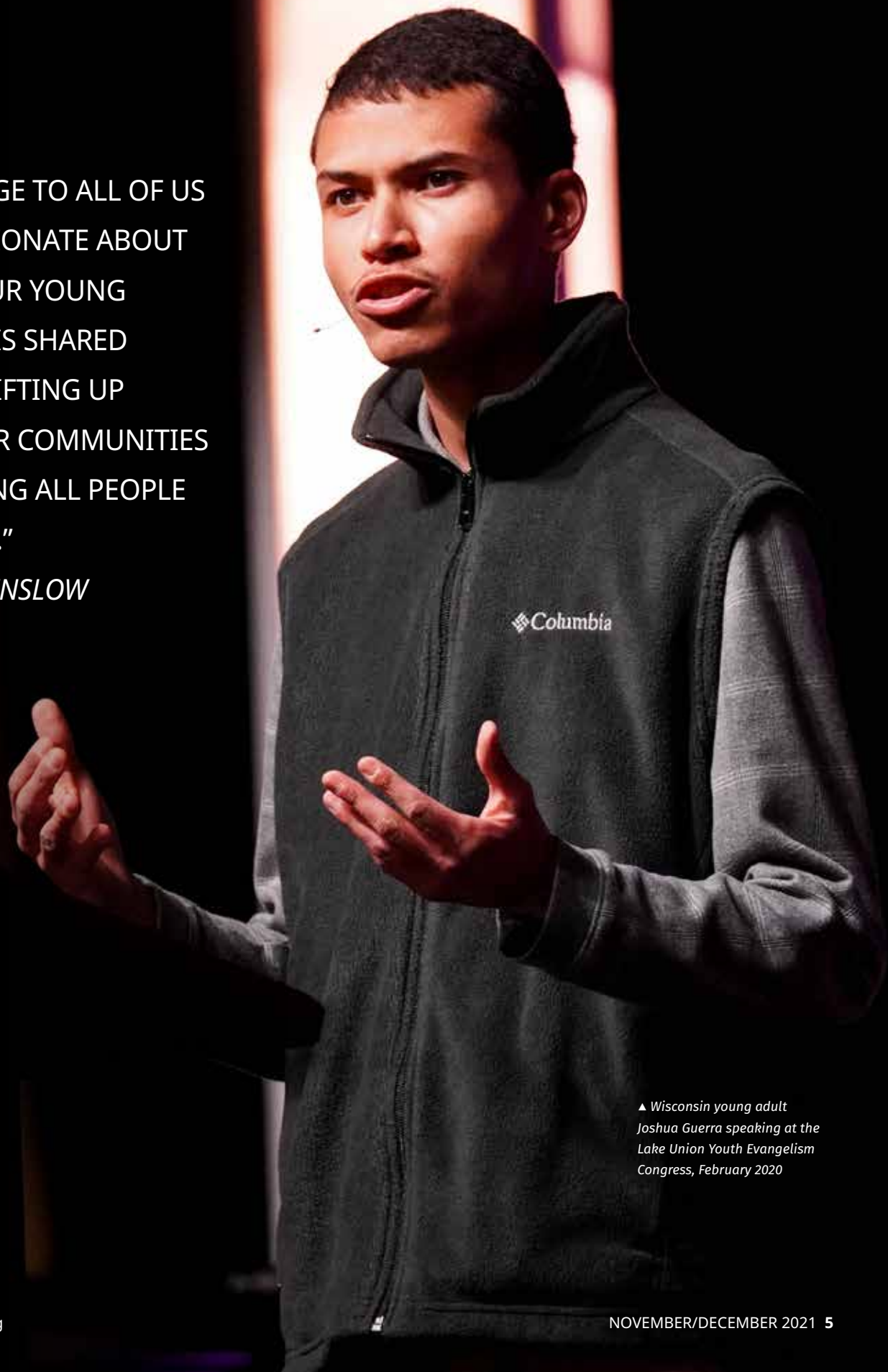
Another very special program, featured in this issue, will take place right here in the Lake Union Conference in February 2022. The Lake Union Youth Evangelism Congress, organized by the Lake Union youth directors and the Center for Youth Evangelism at Andrews University, encourages the initiatives and ideas of young people. Those who attend will be able to share their dreams with a panel and receive funding for their outreach plans. *(More details are available on page 27 of this issue.)*

These are just a few of many attempts being made to be better listeners to young people’s needs in the North American church. These acts of listening and empowering the next generation are crucial as we continue to prepare for Jesus’ second coming. My challenge to all of us is to be passionate about engaging our young people in this shared mission of lifting up Christ in our communities and preparing all people for eternity. ■

Ken Denslow is president of the Lake Union Conference.

"MY CHALLENGE TO ALL OF US
IS TO BE PASSIONATE ABOUT
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—KEN DENSLOW



▲ Wisconsin young adult
Joshua Guerra speaking at the
Lake Union Youth Evangelism
Congress, February 2020

Reducing Stress in Our Homes

Traumatologists frequently use the words “toxic stress” to describe what prolonged adversity and its subsequent impact does to the brain, especially the developing brain.



▲ Ingrid Slikkers

This can significantly negatively impact a child without adult support around them. Knowing this, I can't help but wonder about the amount of stress in our homes currently and over the last few months. Words such as “fear” and “confusion” and even “conflict” seem to rise frequently.

I question what our children are hearing. Do I show unhealthy fear? How judgmental are my words? Are our youngest ones confused because we are having arguments with or talking about family members negatively? Could it be that our teens are even more impacted as they, too, try to understand what is valid, truth, science, and what they should believe or how they can respond?

I pause, knowing that children will respond to things around them based on how their care provider is responding. Particularly in the world of working within traumatic situations with children, this is called “co-regulation.” I question, “Where is my regulation?”

Let's make time to talk with our kids. Ask them what are their friends talking about. Create an environment in your home that feels safe to talk about *all* of it,

whatever that might be, even masks and vaccines! Ask them if they have any questions about what they have heard you talk about.

Tune in to their feelings; talk about how you are feeling *and* ways you are trying to cope. Remember, throughout the discussion time, children develop their self-regulation from the co-regulation that you provide. Acknowledge the responses, thoughts and reactions kids have, and don't be surprised if they think differently that you! Obviously, assure that all conversations are within the child's developmental level.

Discuss practical ways of choosing to be like Jesus in hard and confusing times. We might have to even venture into topics of why others, who are also Christians, love Jesus and pray every day, might not be viewing or responding to the world like our family believes we should.

Use a calm and reassuring voice and tone. It is okay not to have all the answers but assuring them that you are in this together and that you will do your best to protect them is key. Remind them that, even if there are differences of opinion, there are people in their surroundings who genuinely care and want to help them in addition to you.

Although there is stress all around us—and we do indeed live in stressful times, our homes need to be the sanctuaries God intended them to be. Ask the Holy Spirit to make you aware of when these conversations need to happen and remember the all-important eye contact and safe physical touch—those vitally important connections that are needed during hard times! ■

Ingrid Slikkers is assistant professor of Social Work and director of the International Center for Trauma Education and Care at Andrews University's School of Social Work.



How Vaccines Work

Vaccines have been used to eradicate and prevent infection and diseases as far back as the fifteenth century, starting with simple experiments to immunize against smallpox.

Since then, we have had a plethora of various vaccines, including the development of the novel vaccine against COVID-19. To understand how vaccines work, you must first understand how your immune system works.

The immune system is educated to protect self and attack non-self or altered-self via an immune response. One response produces general resistance/barriers via the skin, the lining of the airway and intestines, production of certain proteins like interferon, interactions involving the complement pathways, various inflammatory responses, and natural killer cell activity. This response occurs outside the cell and is temporary.

Another way for the body to protect itself from outside invasion is through specialized white cells that are made in the bone marrow. The easiest way to describe this process is to share an analogy put forth by Dr. Ramon Arscot, plastic surgeon and immunologist. The key function of the immune cells can be compared to the personnel in the police force/army. The T helper cell – the general; Antigen Presenting Cells (APCs) – the detectives; the Killer T cell – the sniper; and B-cell making antibodies – the police officer with handcuffs.

Imagine the intruder (virus), wearing a green hat, blue jacket, brown shoes and a gun slung over his shoulder, enters the body through the nasal passage or mouth. He is immediately picked up by the detective (the APC). The detective (APC) carries the intruder (virus) to the police station (the lymph node) and presents him to the General (the T-Helper cell). The general (T-Helper cell) then gives the command to the police officer (the B-cell) to handcuff (produce antibodies against) the intruder, and also commanded the sniper (Killer T-Cell) to shoot and kill the intruder (virus). The General also ordered the police officer

(B-cell) and the sniper (Killer T-cell) to create a memory of this intruder (virus) so that he will be handcuffed and killed the moment a similar intruder enters through the door (the mouth or nasal cavity). There will be no need for the detectives (APCs) upon re-entry because he will be remembered and cuffed and killed on arrival. This response takes two weeks. It is upon this principle that various vaccines work.

Vaccines against coronavirus infections have been studied for decades. “SARS-CoV1 was a coronavirus that caused epidemic from 2002 to 2003 with 11.25% mortality. Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) coronavirus infection was also a deadly coronavirus infection from 2012 to 2015 with 30-40% mortality” [CDC.gov accessed September 4, 2021]. “Based on data from SARS-CoV-1 and MERS-CoV vaccine studies, as well as observations that antibodies binding to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein can prevent attachment to the host cell and neutralize the virus, the spike protein became the predominant target for COVID-19 vaccine development” [F. Krammer, 2020]. Once fully immunized against SARS-CoV2, it will take less than a week to produce specific antibodies against the virus’ spike protein to prevent entry into the cells and subsequent infection.

Our Creator designed the human body to defend itself against diseases and infections and has given scientific researchers the knowledge to design vaccines to boost this defense. ■



▲ Arlene Gayle

Arlene Gayle, MD, was, until recently, a member of the Marshfield (Wisconsin) Church, specializing in medical oncology and hematology. Her interest is in women's health and stem cell transplant. She's currently a bone marrow physician at AdventHealth.

The Rise of Adventist Elementary Schools — 1

And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children. Deuteronomy 6:6, 7 RSV



▲ George R. Knight

One of the most exciting developments in Adventism education in the 1890s was the elementary school movement. Up through the middle '90s, Adventists had largely neglected elementary education except at localities where they had a college or secondary school. That indifference would change by the end of the decade, and Adventists have ever since supported a strong system of local church (elementary) schools.

The General Conference had called, in 1887 and 1888, to begin a system of elementary schools, but nothing had come from the resolutions.

In 1897, however, Ellen White challenged the church with a renewed demand for elementary schools. The Australian situation had alerted her on the topic. "In some countries," she asserted, "parents are compelled by law to send their children to school. In these countries, in localities where there is a church, schools should be established if there are no more than six

children to attend. Work as if you were working for your life to save the children from being drowned in the polluting, corrupting influences of the world.

"We are far behind our duty in this important matter. In many places schools should have been in operation years ago" (6T 199).

Again she wrote: "Wherever there are a few Sabbathkeepers, the parents should unite in providing a place for a day school where their children and youth can be instructed. They should employ a Christian teacher who, as a consecrated missionary, shall educate the children in such a way as to lead them to become missionaries. Let teachers be employed who will give a thorough education in the common branches, the Bible being made the foundation and the life of all study" (Ibid., 198).

Those words proved to be some of the most important and most influential counsel in all of her long ministry. In the next few years Adventist churches around the world established schools, even if they had only five or six children to attend. Their salvation and future became a focal point of Seventh-day Adventism as the church took seriously its evangelistic responsibility to prepare its own children for God's Kingdom.

From such a perspective, education was evangelism. That is an insight that we dare not lose. ■

George R. Knight is a retired professor of Church History at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. This article is from his book, Lest We Forget, a daily devotional, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, page 308. Reprinted with permission.



Heme Aquí

Con semejante ejército de obreros, como el que nuestros jóvenes, bien preparados, podrían proveer, icuán pronto se proclamaría a todo el mundo el mensaje de un Salvador crucificado, resucitado y próximo a venir!

¡Cuán pronto vendría el fin—el fin del sufrimiento, del dolor y del pecado! ¡Cuán pronto recibirían nuestros hijos en vez de una posesión aquí, marchitada por el pecado y el dolor, una herencia donde “los justos heredarán la tierra, y habitarán para siempre;” donde “no dirá más habitante: Estoy enfermo,” y “no se oirá más en ella voz de lloro” (*La educación*, p 264).

Algo que me gustó cuando comencé a asistir a la Iglesia Adventista fue el apoyo que los miembros de iglesia daban a los jóvenes en sus actividades, tales como los retiros espirituales que se realizaban fuera de la ciudad; me ayudaron mucho a mantenerme más cerca de Dios.

El Departamento Multilingüe de la Unión del Lago apoya los retiros espirituales para los jóvenes porque es cuando se nota claramente que Dios se manifiesta de una manera poderosa. Un ejemplo de esto es el retiro que se llevó a cabo este verano en el campamento Timber Ridge en Spencer, estado de Indiana. La Federación de Jóvenes Adventistas Hispanos (FEJAH) de la Asociación de Indiana celebró del 20 al 22 de agosto, bajo el liderazgo de la directora Nayeli Nix, un congreso de jóvenes extraordinario.

Bajo el lema, "Heme aquí," más de 140 jóvenes asistieron al retiro para ser capacitados, confraternizar y consagrar sus vidas a Jesús. Los invitados, el pastor Erwin Ruedas y el cantante evangelista, Wander Bello, presentaron el mensaje mediante la exposición de la Palabra de Dios y la música de manera que muchos jóvenes fueron conducidos a los pies de Jesús. Gracias a Dios un buen número de jóvenes respondieron al llamado de servir a Dios, y tres de ellos fueron bautizados el sábado de tarde.

Deseo compartir el testimonio de Daris Rodríguez. Daris nació en Cuba y allí se crió junto con la juventud adventista de ese país. Al venir con su familia a los Estados Unidos ciertas circunstancias la desanimaron y se alejó de la iglesia por once años. Cierta día tuvo la impresión de que debía visitar la Iglesia Central en Indianapolis. Al llegar a la iglesia sintió el amor de Dios compartido por los miembros y el pastor de la iglesia, por lo que siguió asistiendo. Estando en el congreso este verano sintió otra vez la voz de Dios y tomó el paso del bautismo.

En este momento Daris está compartiendo el amor de Jesús y lo que él hizo por ella, y se dedica a preparar y conducir a otras personas para que también entreguen sus vidas a Jesús.

Doy gracias a Dios por iglesias que se preocupan y trabajan por los jóvenes. No tengo duda alguna que los frutos de eventos y actividades espirituales como este congreso en el campamento Timber Ridge se verán con toda su plenitud en el reino de los cielos. ■



▲ Carmelo Mercado

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago

▼ Jóvenes en oración en el retiro de FEJAH



Air Conditioners Donated to Michigan School

By Louise Wrege

STUDENTS RETURNING TO FAIR PLAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVED A COOL RECEPTION. Several area pastors donated and installed almost 20 air conditioners throughout the school Friday, Aug. 27.

“By the end of the day, every classroom will have AC, along with the offices,” said Abraham Henry, Youth director for the Lake Region Conference.

“This all came together very fast,” he said. On his day off on Wednesday, Henry was working as a substitute at the school when principal Kelvin Butts told the staff that it would be nice to have air conditioning.

“I heard the principal and his vision, and it was amazing,” Henry said. “He wanted every student to come back to a cool, comfortable environment in which to learn.”

He immediately started making phone calls and, by the end of the day, there was enough money and donated units for each classroom.

“Through the grace of God and the selflessness of pastors, churches and members, we were able to meet this need by raising \$2,700 in just four hours. At 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Adventist pastors transported 12 AC units and 8,000 masks to the Fair Plain Middle School. We then prayed for the new principal and his wife’s success in the school district,” Henry said.

He shared that the pastors he had called agreed to help without hesitation.

“That’s just the spirit of these guys,” he said. “It’s amazing. If there’s a need, they are there.”

Henry said the Lake Region Conference Youth Department donated 12 air conditioners, with three others being donated by Home Depot and another two supplied by Lowe’s. On the following Friday, six pastors returned to the school to help with the difficult task of installing most of the units.

Butts said having cooler classrooms will make a huge difference.

“Tempers flare when it’s hot,” he said. “We’re not just making them comfortable—we’re creating a more conducive environment for learning.”

Rebecca Shagonaby said she’s worked as a special education teacher in the district for 14 years and has never had air conditioning.

“It can be hot for up to six weeks,” she said. “This is awesome. We’re very appreciative of this.”

Ian Mosher, an eighth-grade English teacher, said he’s thankful for the air conditioning.

“The kids come in and say they can’t do this because it’s hot,” he said. “They can now focus on what I’m trying to teach.” ■



Don Campbell/Herald-Palladium

▲ Abraham Henry (fourth from left), Lake Region’s Youth director, noted that several pastors deserved special recognition for helping install the cooling units. Pictured from left to right: Clifford Wallace, Eric Jean Baptiste, David Springer, Abraham Henry, Kelvin Butts (Fair Plain Middle School principal), Leon George, Daniel Milard. Missing is Claval Hunter.

Louise Wrege, Herald-Palladium writer. Original story ran Aug. 28, 2021 and was reprinted with permission from the Herald Palladium, St. Joseph, Mich.

Small Church, Big Miracles

CONSTRUCTION OF \$300,000 COMMUNITY CENTER WITH ZERO DEBT

By Nancy Przedwojewski

IT WAS MID-2013 AT A CHURCH BOARD

MEETING when a member of the Irons Church made the generous offer of donating to the church a prime piece of property located right in the middle of town. The offer would set in motion an almost decade-long process of building a much-needed community service center to serve the needs of low-income families in one of the poorest counties in the State of Michigan.

The need for this new building arose when the previous building, constructed in 1898, was too aged and could no longer support its intended purpose. Started in 1955, the ministry distributed used clothing, food baskets, bedding and household needs, with a big helping of encouragement and prayer.

With a “nest egg” of about \$12,000, they would need to raise \$250,000 more to make the dream a reality. The church members—numbering only 10 households, all on fixed incomes and most at retirement age—were determined to not borrow one penny. Their unflinching faith in God has propelled the project forward.

“It’s really been amazing to be so involved so closely with God as your general manager because it almost seems impossible to raise almost \$300,000,” says Nancy Przedwojewski, Irons member serving as one of the project’s managers. “As the project inched along, the community has been excited and keeps asking, ‘When are we going to get that building open?’”

‘THERE IS A NEED’

Lake County, where Irons is situated, has a population of some 12,000 with 20.2 percent living in poverty, according to 2019 U.S. Census Bureau figures. The area is rural and most of the county is in the Manistee



▲ Irons Church pastor Malcolm Mills with Nancy Przedwojewski, outside the community center under construction.

Jean-Ires Michel

National Forest. “We have a lot of vacation homes,” says Irons church pastor Malcolm Mills, “and very little industry. Sometimes people work one job in the winter and one in the summer, but that doesn’t translate to a steady income for the year. When you look at the map in *National Geographic* of places of food insecurity, you can see the red spike showing we have food insecurity here. There is a need.”

BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS

The blessing of the land was only the beginning of the miracles that have surrounded this project. Prof. Martin Smith and the School of Architecture at Andrews University chose to do the plans for a fraction of the going rate. The general contractor worked in a “go and stop” manner. As money was raised, he would work; when the money was gone, the work would stop. Because of the church’s good reputation in the community and the good reputation of the general contractor, local contractors began to join in. To date, the in-kind amount donated is well over \$100,000 in labor and even specific supplies needed to finish the building. The general contractor paid his help but took no pay for his [own] labor. Others that joined the project were: concrete finishers, electricians, heating/cooling companies, plumbers, sign makers, carpet companies, septic/drain field contractors, landscapers, roofers and siding companies.

GIGANTIC YARD SALE

No one could have imagined what God had in store when the church planned its annual yard sale on July 4 and 5 to raise funds for the food pantry. Normally the event is held at the home of the pantry director who lived on a well-travelled paved road, but she had moved away. For several months the question loomed, where could they hold the event?

The “Wheeler Dealer” property was a four-acre spot with several buildings on it, right in the heart of Irons. This place had been an ongoing yard sale or flea market and lumber yard for many years until the owner retired and had placed it on the market. For 15 years, the building sat unused.

“We called the new owner to see if we could ‘borrow’ just his front yard for our sale,” Przedwojewski says.

“The phone just went silent, and he then suggested I meet him at the building in a few days.

When she showed up, she couldn’t believe her eyes.

When the new owner unlocked the front door and turned on the lights, the scene was a store filled to the brim with “stuff,” with shelves and shelves ready to go. Apparently, the previous owner had just turned off the lights and walked away into his new retired life.

“Brad, the new owner, said we could sell it all and use the funds for the new center,” she recalls in amazement. They already had all that they had collected over the past year for their little sale, and now they had all that was waiting for them in the store. They also decided to invite the whole area to donate their “stuff” for the benefit of the new center, so lots and lots of things were added to the growing inventory.

The little congregation worked tirelessly for the month of June, washing 15 years of dust from shelves and items, and adding much, much more in every possible place. Items ranged from large commercial pastry display cases and aluminum boat lifts, to sets of china, complete bedroom furniture, all sorts of lumber, couches, chairs, toys, clothing, bikes. “You name it, we had something for everyone,” says Przedwojewski.

A local business printed up t-shirts for the team with “Irons Community Center” on the front and “God Bless America” across the back; Independence Day baseball caps identified the helpers for folks that needed cars or trailers loaded. Advertisements ran on Strong Tower Radio and in the local papers. Additionally, every business and campground within 10 miles of Irons received a postcard-sized flyer. The goal was \$6,000, which would cover the next steps in building the center.

It was later estimated about 3,000 people came that first day. Cars lined the main street of town. Przedwojewski remembers, “It was exciting and uplifting as people wanted to know how soon the center would be open. What would we be doing in the building? Could anyone come to the cooking schools?” At the end of the first day, with still another day to go, she went home, having more than met their goal.

People came back for the whole next week to buy lumber and even storage sheds that were on the



▲ Pastor Mills says he considers the building a Center of Influence, although not in the traditional sense of a big city. "We're planning to influence our little community here."

property. Clothing racks and cupboards sold. As the shelves emptied, the shelves were sold. In the end, the final figures revealed close to \$16,000 raised. As excited as they were about the money to help finish a long-awaited building, their true excitement was about the community's excitement and support of this project.

As others have heard of this project, more donations for the center have come in such as office furniture, as well as ping-pong tables, bumper pool tables and living room furniture for a Youth room. In response to a concern from another church in the town that has a Mission Store and sells used clothing and household needs, the church board decided to *not* have a clothing room but chose instead to follow the suggestion of the local sheriff to turn that room into a Youth ministry.

NOT YOUR TYPICAL COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

The layout of the building, which is expected to be ready by year's end, is 3,000 sq. ft. divided into three



▲ A huge flea market this summer netted \$16,000.

main rooms: 1) a large food pantry and behind it plenty of storage, 2) a full kitchen/classroom, and 3) a Youth ministry room to not only help bring more of Christ into the lives of our area teens but also to help send them out into the community to serve others in the name of Christ. The growing number of folks moving up to northern Michigan will provide any number of skilled professionals, and Michigan State Extension and District #10 Health Department will be additional sources for class instructors in literacy, budgeting, grief recovery, parenting, canning, freezing, cooking school and gardening.

Pastor Mills says he considers the building a Center of Influence, although not in the traditional sense of a big city. "We're planning to influence our little community here." ■

Nancy Przedwojewski, member of Irons Church, with Herald staff

Unstoppable

WHEN YOUTH ARE RIGHTLY
TRAINED AND FURNISHED

The good news is that young people have been and still are a fearless army for God, and it takes more than a global pandemic to stop them! The bad news is that many times this army is facing the enemy without “weapons” or, better said, “resources.”

Ellen White once said, “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!” (*Education*, p. 271)

I believe that as a church we are pretty good at training them because young people bring new energy to local congregations, and rightly trained they must be. But what about “might furnish”? We expect much from them, but how can we furnish them?


Every two years, the Youth Evangelism Congress, organized by Lake Union, puts into

practice a simple concept to furnish our “army” of youth.

The concept is simple. For every dollar voted for an evangelism project by a local church board, the Youth Evangelism Congress will match the amount with another dollar, for up to \$50,000! That means \$100,000 dollars exclusively for evangelism projects developed by senior youth and young adults in the Lake Union.

As far as we know, there is no precedent in the world where Adventist youth are receiving this kind of support, and we are happy, because this joint effort has made possible, so far, a total of

► NESTOR OSMAN ◀



▲ At the February 2020 Youth Congress, Lake Union Youth director Ron Whitehead interviewed Justin Khoe, founder of the popular YouTube channel "ThatChristianVlogger." Khoe was the featured keynote speaker and testified of his journey from literature evangelist to using YouTube as an evangelistic tool and how he built a community of almost 100,000 subscribers despite having no media training.



▲ Youth, young adults and mentors unite to pray at the 2020 Lake Union Youth Congress in Shipshewana, Ind.

72 evangelism projects for a total amount of \$353,872, divided into the four editions of LUC Youth Evangelism Congress (2013, 2016, 2018, 2020).

To better understand the dimension of this financial support, each evangelism project approved in the 2020 edition of the Youth Evangelism Congress had an average total budget of \$6,500. Imagine what young people in your church could do with that, but most important, imagine how valuable they will feel with such support and vote of trust.

There are several experiences to share, from traditional outreach efforts to original and unique ideas. Some succeeded immediately, some seem without fruit, but only in Heaven

will we be able to measure all this.

One of these stories occurred in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where 26-year-old Joshua Guerrero brought an application in 2020 for a “Campus House at University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point.” In 2018 he had presented their first project, but this one was bigger.

To the question, “What is your project about? What is its aim or purpose?” he answered, “The purpose of this project is to provide a space where college students on our public campus can explore and seek Jesus in a non-threatening environment. Having a campus house/center creates this environment where students not only have a safe place to open up and explore God but also see what living

as a Christian is like. As a result, these students can be equipped as leaders and disciple-makers for Christ that winsomely share and live His beautiful truth and vibrancy of the Adventist Church message as found in the Word of God.”

Probably their dream for the rental of this place for evangelism didn’t start in 2020, but the vote of trust and the budget were available at that time.

Their full story that blessed their university campus can be found in “Public campus ministry in Wisconsin makes adjustment and reaps windfall” (see pp. 27–28).

In the same way, but this time from Michigan, Cady and Khaikhai Cin (siblings), Lian Cing and Joseph Kual (siblings), and Tuan Pau had come to the



▲ Worship leaders at the 2020 Youth Evangelism Congress

2016 edition of the Youth Evangelism Congress with a dream: to launch the Myanmar Community Service.

They just needed the funds and trust of the church for this ministry, oriented to assist their fellow refugee community in Grand Rapids and Battle Creek. They applied for funds in 2016 and 2018, and received enough to launch their dream.

At that time, their team was working for over 400 people, providing any kind of support that a refugee will need. It is possible to imagine that with the strike of the pandemic, this ministry could disappear, but that was not God's plan.

What follows is part of a report we received in August 2021 from Shirley Finneman, director of Battle Creek Adventist Community Services and

Disaster Response which supports the initiative of Cady and Khaikhai.

"Their pastor was ordained [earlier] this year and is [now] in the middle of evangelistic meetings in Grand Rapids. A few weeks ago, in Battle Creek, they had a Youth Camp, and six young people were baptized."

The list of activities they keep doing is endless and has spread across the U.S. and Myanmar.

"Cady has gone up the ranks to HR at her work. On the side, she runs the Community Services, still helping people with paperwork, etc.

"Right now, she is helping with the children in evangelistic meetings in Grand Rapids. On the side, she and others have, after counseling with the NAD, started a private organization to

help people in Myanmar to cope with COVID-19."

Their support for Myanmar during the pandemic was a challenge due to the fact that the military government in that country banned doctors from helping COVID patients. But what we can mention is that many miracles happened, and the will to help this ministry is UNSTOPPABLE.

That is precisely what our theme is for the 2022 LUC Youth Evangelism Congress: UNSTOPPABLE. With God's blessing, we'll see in February a large "army of workers" and empower them to move forward. We need to keep our senior youth and young adults Rightly Trained, and Furnish them for the mission.

Nestor Osman, LUC Youth Evangelism Congress director

E=MC²

Evangelism = Mission x Community²

The Audacious Youth Evangelism Experiment

Youth ministry has its roots in the Lake Union. You may be familiar with the story of two boys, 14-year-old Luther Warren and 17-year-old Harry Fenner, who ambled down a country road in Hazelton, Michigan, one hot summer day in 1879.

As the telling goes, they were worried about their friends who seemed to be slipping away from God and wondered what they could do to help them. As they walked and talked, the idea of establishing a boys' mission society began to develop in their minds. Kneeling in a corner of a deserted field, they prayerfully committed their plans to God.

Soon after, the first Adventist Youth Society was born in Luther's bedroom, comprised of six or eight boys. Although the group was initially not too charmed by the idea of singing, praying and planning outreach together, Fenner and Warren persisted and soon their efforts paid off. The Society began to meet regularly, placing an emphasis on personal spirituality, healthful living and mission.

The girls in the church got wind of what was happening and wanted to be in on the action. The meetings were then moved out of Luther's bedroom and into the

downstairs parlor under the friendly but watchful eye of an adult. The Society soon expanded their schedule to include social events as well, and the youth of the Hazleton church began to thrive.

The through-line of this passion for youth service continues in the Lake Union today with the contemporary Youth Evangelism Congress, allowing youth and young adults an opportunity to pitch their ministry ideas and receive funding to, in the words of Youth director Ron Whitehead, "Just try something."

Right after the last Youth Congress in February 2020, the world as we knew it changed, so we decided to conduct follow-up interviews with the 18 youth groups which received funding to hear how they navigated the unprecedented year-and-a-half. As expected, the pandemic either killed or deferred some dreams, while others made the pivot. We were delighted to hear stories of how God poured out His spirit on our resilient youth

• **By Debbie Michel** •



▲ Luther Warren and Harry Fenner
in 1879, by Russell Harlan, 1961.

to make their visions a reality. You can read more about one ministry at the University of Wisconsin on pages 27 and 28, while a few others we highlight here.

After Glow

Five years ago, Carolina Torres moved to Indiana from Miami to attend the Indiana University Northwest. Not long after she began attending the Hammond Church, the 26-year-old noticed there wasn't much to do after church services each week. "It was isolating and boring," remembers Carolina. She had grown accustomed to joining other youth in Florida for walks on the beach or at the park. These activities also were a non-threatening way to mingle with prospective members in a neutral setting.

In June 2018, Carolina started a Sabbath evening program at the Hammond Church by hosting a vespers service followed by a social—playing board games or a sporting activity on the five-acre plot outside the church. Although Hammond is a relatively small church of about 75 members—with less than 20 youth and young adults in attendance, it was a little disappointing to her that only 10 people showed up.

But she was undeterred. After the 2020 Youth Congress, Carolina decided to give the idea another try. . . and then COVID wiped out those plans.

Then again in June 2021, feeling this time would be different, she gave it a shot. And she was right. The After Glow program, as it's called, brought out 40 to 45 people, two-thirds from the community. "People were locked up for a year and they wanted to do this," surmises Carolina. "Praise God!"

It turns out many attending After Glow learned of the event during the summer Vacation Bible School and warmed to the idea. The ripple effect has continued with some of those families showing up for church services and enrolling their children for the first time in club ministries. For example, this year the Adventurer Club swelled from 11 to 21 children.

In reflecting on the bumpy road to success, Carolina says it's all about God's timing. "It didn't challenge my faith when it didn't work [in 2018]. I realize God works in mysterious ways and when He says, 'It's time,' it's just a wonderful thing to see."

There are a few lessons Carolina, a care manager for a community action organization, is taking from

this experience. 1. Prayer works. "There was a lot of prayer," she notes. 2. A church that catches the vision is a blessing. "It was incredible to see how supportive the members were. If they couldn't actively support, they donated." 3. We're stronger together. Various ministries joining forces, from VBS to club ministries, resulted in a lasting bond with the new families.

Green Bay Adventist Media

If you met Madeline Konshak right before the 2018 Youth Congress, it would *not* have been in church. The 23-year-old was struggling to reconcile her mother's death and what she describes as poor treatment from the church. "I felt hurt that she was alone most of the last few years, with no one coming to see her," explains Madeline. "It was hard for me to justify why I should go to church. I still believed in God but had a hard time with the church."

Fast forward to 2020, Madeline was at the Youth Congress feeling more optimistic. She was receiving mentoring from the new church pastor, Kevin Moreno, and he encouraged her not to let the setback dampen her relationship with God.

When she returned home to the Green Bay Church, Madeline, along with two other young adults, Joel Campbell and Josue Hilario, decided to launch a YouTube channel, Adventist Youth Real Connections. [<https://bit.ly/3acZolh>]

In the introductory video, uploaded March 2020, Joel says with urgency that they were keen on using the platform to connect with their peers. "We have to do all we can, now more than ever, to reach people and, most importantly, to develop a relationship with Jesus."

For Josue, he expresses on video how it was important that the content reflect a certain authenticity. "We want to show with this channel that even with struggles we can have a life centered in Christ."

Editing the testimonials and devotionals has been Madeline's responsibility. She says when she listens to the videos, she can't help but feel hopeful. "Hearing everyone's devotionals, about what went on their lives and how they've used their faith in a real way has encouraged my relationship with God."

The lockdown slowed the number of videos produced so far to just under a dozen. "You don't realize how

much you need human interaction to get things done,” Madeline says, adding that they’re hoping to pick up the pace now that they’re meeting in person again. “We can’t give it up.”

They plan to invest in new equipment and eventually carve out some space in the church’s facilities for a studio.

Community Lifestyle Center

The Elmhurst Church Youth Dept. collaborated with its fellow church Health Ministry to use food and nutrition to attract residents in their suburban community located west of Chicago. As a lifestyle center, the church had already established ties to the Chicago vegetarian community and were seeking opportunities to do even more.

Then came the pandemic.

“People were suffering and scared about COVID,” says Rodney Pidur Jr., a 24-year-old who works in the health-care field and one of the key young adults involved in the initiative. “Everyone was conscious about building up their immune system. We wanted to just meet their needs by showing them how to keep their body healthy.”

In consultation with the board of elders, the Elmhurst Church took the plunge—making sure to operate with proper health protocols—and hosted a series of seminars and cooking classes between December 2020 and June 2021.

The results exceeded their expectations.

“I was amazed by the amount of people from the community who are interested in these topics,” says Rodney. “When we held these events, many times the vast majority of those in attendance were from the community.

“One of the most successful ones was the food fest. During that time 100 to 200 attended during the day. We had quite a lot of people from the community and took that as an opportunity to connect them with our other ministries.

“One family really connected during one of the health seminars regarding the immune system and consistently attended our seminars. They began attending Sabbath services, and when they found out we had Pathfinder and Adventurers clubs, they enrolled their grandson. We started with something as simple as eating healthy and they’re now worshipping with us.”

Rodney says that this experience has taught him that it’s not about trying to reach people with out-of-the-box

ideas. “A lot of times when we’re trying to come up with ideas for evangelism, we’re trying to invent something no one has thought of before, but the concept of health has been here a long time and remains relevant today. We can simply present it in a different light within the context of what the community is currently searching for. Jesus came to offer healing both physically and spiritually, and people respond to these kinds of events because that is precisely what they’re looking for.”

Health Expo

Kenyan native Davis Gumbo sat on the board of the Northbrook Church as they brainstormed ways to reach their suburban Chicago neighbors. One idea tossed around was to host a health expo, drawing on the expertise of one of their members, Samuel Lespinasse, a medical doctor.

Around this time, the 32-year-old attended the Lake Union Youth Evangelism Congress and decided to apply for funds that could help take the health expo to a higher level.

When the pandemic hit a month after the congress, the church realized they were positioned to meet a huge need for health education. They delayed the expo until October 31 (2020), a date with special significance. “We wanted to shift people’s minds from Halloween to something more spiritual,” says Davis.

On that Sunday, in the church’s fellowship hall and foyer, they set up eight stations, each representing one of the laws of health from the NEWSTART acronym: Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunshine, Temperance, Air, Rest, Trust in God.

Davis recalls the church had prayed and said that if only one family could be impacted, they would consider the mission a success. True to form, God opened the door.

A young couple arrived at the health expo, and Davis learned that the husband had some familiarity with Adventism during his early years. After the event, the church kept in touch, even purchasing items on the expectant couple’s baby registry. The husband and wife eventually began attending and are still there a year later.

Davis, a mechanical engineer employed as an energy efficiency consultant, says one of the surprises from this initiative is that it has bred a spirit of collaboration beyond Northbrook. They’ve since hosted another health fair, partnering with the Gurnee Church. Now they’re



◀ **Top left:** The Green Bay Youth launched a YouTube channel to forge connections with other youth.

Top right: Lansing Church youth conducted "Fieldwork," building beds for families in need.

Bottom left: Elmhurst Church capitalized on a surge in health education interest by hosting a series of health-related programs.

Bottom right: Hammond Church reimagined community outreach which has continued to impact other ministries in the church.



gearing up to host an evangelistic campaign with four area churches.

Nevertheless, he looks at evangelism not so much as an event. "If you're a believer, then wherever you go, whomever you come in contact with, that's an opportunity to make an impact on your community."

Teen Connections for Christ and Fieldwork

The Lansing Church youth realized they needed a safe space to invite their friends to enjoy social events and study the Bible. One of those young people, Lilly Widdicombe, was a homeschooler at the time and thought these interactions with friends outside the church would serve as a good seed-planting opportunity. "Some young people can have a negative connotation of religious people, so it's important for them to see that we were fun to hang out with . . . that normal people love Jesus, too!" she says.

Before COVID, they hosted game nights, Sabbath afternoon Bible studies, and also were hoping to increase their community outreach by donating socks and other essentials to the homeless. Those plans were placed on hold but, by the following spring, they were busy with a large-scale project to help their community.

On March 21, 2021, under the guidance of Michigan Conference's Youth director Chad Bernard, they partnered with the local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) and built 120 twin-sized beds for children and families in need, shattering the non-profit organization's chapter record of the number of beds made in a day.

Although Lilly was away at Andrews University during this event, she says it's experiences such as these that have really built her faith and deepened her connection with other youth. "The whole experience pushed me outside of my comfort zone and gave me a safe space to learn and grow from my mistakes," says the 20-year-old biology/pre-med major. It was while doing mundane tasks of sending out emails to group members and summoning up the courage to call strangers on the phone which allowed her to form a stronger bond with her peers and mentors. She also came to appreciate the fact that you can 'bloom wherever you are planted.' "Working for God can be a big thing, but it doesn't have to be so big," she explains. "I was working for God in my home church, doing small, everyday things that were missionary work, and that was beneficial."

Debbie Michel, Lake Union Herald editor



Pilot program emphasizes inpatients' spiritual needs

AMITA Adventist GlenOaks has introduced a pilot program, Mission Matters, that encourages physicians, nurses and patient care technicians to prioritize inpatients' spiritual needs by alerting the hospital's chaplains when a patient needs spiritual care or emotional support.

The Mission Matters program enables physicians and staff to use PerfectServe, a HIPAA-compliant app for clinical communications, to send spiritual-care referrals quickly and easily to chaplains. The program also encourages patients and their families to request a chaplain's care whenever necessary. AMITA Adventist GlenOaks

is adding chaplain contact information to the clinical care whiteboards in patient rooms, as well as in-room signage explaining when it's appropriate to request a chaplain.

"A chaplain referral can be for spiritual comfort, emotional comfort and/or a referral to the patient's own faith tradition," said David de Ramos, D.O., president of the AMITA Adventist GlenOaks medical staff. "It is not necessarily a religious referral but it is definitely an extension of our mission. We want our staff and physicians to intentionally help our patients experience our mission and help us enhance patient care and the patient experience by recognizing

when a patient is in emotional or spiritual distress and by asking a chaplain to intervene."

AMITA Adventist GlenOaks is using Mission Matters posters as well as decals on computers in patient care areas to increase awareness of the program among physicians and associates, said Alfred Kambaki, director of Spiritual Care and Clinical Pastoral Education.

de Ramos conceptualized Mission Matters and worked with Kambaki and Mark Bondarenko, senior director, Spiritual Care, to implement the pilot program this past spring. Plans call for measuring and analyzing the program's impact at AMITA Adventist GlenOaks, and if it's beneficial, expanding it to AMITA's three other legacy Adventist hospitals, Kambaki said.

"As a faith-based health system, we need to set ourselves apart from non-faith-based health systems, and this program is a way to enhance the patient experience – and the mission experience – in our hospitals," de Ramos said. ■

Julie Busch, associate vice president, Internal Communications, AMITA Health





Photo courtesy of the family

▲ Dot met President Andrea Luxton in 2019 and shared her excitement to help students.

Seminary Promise

Don's management career provided a comfortable lifestyle for his wife, Dot, and their two sons, Kells and Kenley. Their needs were always provided for, but they did not live extravagantly. Dot faithfully attended the local Seventh-day Adventist Church each week with her sons while Don stayed home.

Dot was strongly convicted of the benefit of a Seventh-day Adventist Christian education. Don did not share her perspective, but Dot quietly refused to be deterred. She took a job as a secretary at her church with the goal of providing her sons an Adventist education at the local church school. Both sons received Adventist education, starting with elementary school and culminating with postgraduate degrees from a Seventh-day Adventist university. Dot reflects with deep pride that both of her sons and their

wives have committed their professional careers to Adventist education.

When the family moved to California and both boys were attending a local Adventist school, Don began to go to church, too. He was eventually baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church by Kenley, who had earned both an MDiv and DMin from the Seminary at Andrews University.

After Don's death in 2017 at the age of 83, his family began settling his financial affairs. Dot's estate settlement attorney immediately recognized she would benefit from the counsel of a financial advisor. Aware of Dot's religious affiliation, the attorney suggested she meet with Dana Wales, CFP, a Seventh-day Adventist and a financial advisor.

"During my initial meetings with Dot, a primary focus of our discussion were her

values and identifying her financial goals," says Wales, "then we pivoted to her capacity as a donor. When I shared with her that she could comfortably gift \$1 million, she was overcome with surprise and emotion."

Dot found herself in an incredibly humbling position where she could directly impact the trajectory of the future of the Seventh-day Adventist Church by donating funds to support the Adventist education of future church leaders' children.

The dialog centered on this question: If the financial obstacle of an Adventist education were fully removed, would future church leaders choose an Adventist education for their children?

The Seminary Promise began to take shape as a tuition scholarship program established to remove financial roadblocks to Seventh-day Adventist education for children of graduate students currently enrolled in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary's Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Master in Youth & Young Adult Ministry (MAYYAM) programs at Andrews University.

Modeled after other "Promise" scholarship programs in communities across the country, the program provides up to 100 percent of base tuition and annual registration fees for students meeting established criteria. "I shared with Dot that it will take millions to fully fund the Seminary Promise which led to her desire to make her initial \$1 million gift into a challenge grant," says Wales.

A family spokesperson says, "Dot, Kells, Kenley and their wives hope this initial challenge grant will motivate numerous additional gifts to the Seminary Promise. They believe that if our church leaders and members believe Adventist education is important, then we should do all we can to support it." ■

Keri Suarez, contributing writer



▲ Elden Ramirez

Elden Ramirez named Lake Union executive secretary

FIRST HISPANIC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO SERVE THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE

On September 14, the Lake Union Conference Executive Committee convened virtually to receive the recommended name of Elden Ramirez for executive secretary. Ramirez, who was confirmed with very strong support from the committee, becomes the first Hispanic executive secretary in the Lake Union.

"I am excited that Elder Ramirez has decided to accept and look forward to working with him," says Ken Denslow, Lake Union president. "He's a spiritual leader who is 'sold out' to the mission of the church. This Union will be blessed not only by his administrative skills but his ability to lead through relationships."

Denslow chaired the meeting, his first since his election as Lake Union president on June 9, following the departure of

Maurice Valentine to the North American Division. Steve Poenitz retired on June 6, which created the vacancy which Ramirez now fills.

"I am humbled by the confidence the Lake Union Executive Committee has placed in me with this ministry assignment," said Ramirez, upon learning of the voted decision. "I look forward to serving the beautiful constituency of the Lake Union Conference. I pray and trust in God that together we will continue to proclaim the Good News of salvation to a world that is in desperate need of Jesus."

Ramirez comes to us from the North American Division where he was voted as Undersecretary in October 2020 and has been serving in that capacity, responsible for the Secretariat functions that include general calls, and interpreting, developing and revising church policies. Previously, in 2017, he was elected president of the Montana Conference; prior to that position worked at the division as director of the NAD's Office of Volunteer Ministries from 2013 to 2017. While serving at the Division, Ramirez provided direction and oversight to the Office of Volunteer Ministries as NAD Secretariat. In this role, he was responsible for guiding student missions, which serves as the resource and processing center to all NAD Adventist colleges and universities. He was instrumental in connecting volunteers throughout North America to mission opportunities across the NAD and around the world.

Prior to joining the NAD, Ramirez served as youth director and assistant to the president for the Central California Conference (2005 to 2013), providing leadership in strategic planning, finance, board management, personnel, fundraising and program delivery. He also served the Iowa-Missouri Conference as a pastor, church planter and departmental director. During this time (1996 to 2004), Ramirez led several ministries at the conference, including Health Temperance,

National Service Organization, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Camp Ministries (as executive director) and Family Life.

He speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese, and has experience in graphic design, media content creation, and radio and television production.

Ramirez is married to Jenny, a registered nurse who has been his right hand in ministry. Together they are the parents of two daughters — Elennie, a junior in college, and Jasmine, a senior in high school. ■

Debbie Michel, editor of the Lake Union Herald, with North American Division.



▲ Philip DeLeon

New associate dean to oversee student involvement

The Division of Campus & Student Life welcomes Philip DeLeon as associate dean for Student Involvement, Leadership & Activities. He will oversee the strategic direction, implementation and assessment of programming and services that maximize student engagement and leadership development.

"We are so pleased that Philip has chosen to return to campus," says Frances Faehner, vice president for Campus & Student Life. "As a younger alum, it is his vivid and fond memories of Andrews University that fuel his desire to serve a new generation of students."

DeLeon, who holds a Master of Public Administration, most recently served as the manager of Patient Experience, Guest Services and Interpretation Services at Garnet Health Medical Center (GHMC) in New York. He provided oversight to GHMC's comprehensive program, driving patient satisfaction.

"We're excited to have Dean DeLeon bring the passion and skills he honed while enhancing the patient experience to creating a first-rate student experience at Andrews," says Steve Yeagley, assistant vice president for Campus & Student Life.

During his ten years in healthcare, DeLeon founded several initiatives that continue to positively impact patient satisfaction and community outreach,

including Holiday Cheer, and Beyond the Walls of 707, an employee outreach program resulting in thousands of gifts to community members in need during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

He also implemented video interpreting services throughout the Medical Center, outpatient facilities and medical group, allowing limited-English, deaf and hard-of-hearing patients the ability to be seen and heard by someone who speaks their language.

When COVID-19 forced restricted visitation at hospitals across the country, DeLeon's team suited up and facilitated virtual visitation for hundreds of patients and their families seven days a week. It was sometimes the only connection patients had with their families during the height of the pandemic.

As Andrews University begins to emerge from the pandemic, DeLeon will again look for ways to provide connection. "God didn't design us to live remotely," he says. "I can't wait to see how He will

bring the campus back to life this year, and I look forward to being part of that renewed energy and experience."

Students, student leaders and their sponsors can connect with Dean DeLeon in his Campus Center office. "I'm eager to meet members of our campus community and hear about their experience at Andrews University," he says. "Everyone's input and ideas are welcome."

In addition to leading the Office of Student Involvement, Leadership & Activities and overseeing the University's 60-plus clubs and organizations, DeLeon will serve as general sponsor of the Andrews University Student Association and consultant to the Andrews University Graduate Student Association. He will work collaboratively with colleagues across the Division of Campus & Student Life to address students' emotional, spiritual, physical and social needs. ■

Jeff Boyd, Media Relations manager, Andrews University

Public campus ministry in Wisconsin makes adjustment and reaps windfall

During last school year, the COVID-19 pandemic was an opportunity for the Adventist Christian Fellowship team to stop and reevaluate mission on the campus of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

ACF advisor/coordinator, Joshua Guerrero says, "I believe God used this unprecedented year to open our eyes and turn what seemed like an evil situation into good, revealing to us how to truly start a gospel-multiplying movement on campus, impacting people personally."

One of the students with which the ACF group connected was an agnostic who had deep hesitations about Jesus. They



▲ Hunter (center) was baptized by Stevens Point Church pastor Justin Spady (left), and Joshua Guerra was on hand to witness.

invited him to share Thanksgiving and, as he revealed his struggles, he was able to fellowship and see what living for Christ looks like. A couple weeks later, after another young adult shared his testimony with him of how he used to be against God, but how Jesus met him in his struggle, this student was deeply convicted. He later messaged Guerrero and shared how he had started reading the gospels and was inspired.

Another is a young man who accepted Christ as his personal Savior and started reaching out to his roommate and friends. He later told Guerrero that it changed his life. He said, "I wish I had connected earlier with you all. Since coming to the small group Bible studies and hanging out, I've experienced a lot more peace in my life than I've had." He started meeting with ACF for weekly discipleship and, at one of the Wednesday socials, he ended up inviting some friends as well as students walking by. One of them was a young lady who, after playing ultimate frisbee with us, was befriended by other ladies in the ministry.

In May, two new students made the decision to be a part of the Seventh-day Adventist movement — one by baptism and the other by profession of faith — and two more are starting their faith journey. "It was a joy to connect them with

the local church and see them become a part of the body of Christ," says Guerrero.

ACF-Stevens Point also seeks to encourage, motivate and inspire Adventist students to remain faithful to Jesus. Each week the students on campus are invited to a Monday night discussion in the Word in the student cafeteria, a Wednesday night social activity, and Friday Night Fellowship at the Campus House, with packaged snacks, singing and digging into the book of Revelation.

Throughout the week, student leaders receive training and pray together for the campus, then go out to do surveys to discover where God is working and which hearts are open to Him. They then follow up with students over lunch to hear their story, share their story of how Jesus changed them, and invite these students to know Jesus, too. Students who want to go deeper meet for one-on-one discipleship meetings over supper or go outside when it's warm. The student leaders also meet and hang out with students after class through activities such as spike ball or supper so as build relationships.

Over time, the group has grown; by the end of this past spring semester, up to 20 to 25 students were connected to ACF. During the summer, the students stayed in touch via video calls where they continued to learn and grow in discipleship

and small group leadership, as well as practicing skills to connect and share with students this fall.

The Stevens Point Church is a major supporter of campus ministries, with the Wisconsin and Lake Union conferences contributing a grant to support a house on campus.

For more information on ACF at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, or for questions on resources and how you can start impacting your public campus in your area, contact Joshua Guerrero at jdguerrero95@gmail.com or via phone at 715-498-4763. ■

Joshua Guerrero, advisor/coordinator of ACF on the UW-Stevens Point campus



▲ Students hanging out at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Adventist Christian Fellowship Campus House.

If you know of a student about to attend or is already on a public university campus in the Lake Union, we encourage you to reach out to the conference representative for help in providing an anchor in the young person's faith journey.

Illinois Conference

Pastor Michael Campos, mcampos@ilcsda.org

Indiana Conference

Pastor John Leis, jleisiii@gmail.com

Lake Region Conference

Zakia Jarrett, zaklynn@yahoo.com

Michigan Conference

Pastor Israel Ramos, director, iramos@misda.org

Pastor Leeroy Hernandez, associate, lhernandez@misda.org

Alanna Rodriguez, assistant, pcm@misda.org

Wisconsin Conference

Zack Payne, zpayne@wi.adventist.org



▲ When Kim, Youth Rush literature evangelist, began to show Rick the truth-filled books she was carrying, Rick realized, "That's what the hundred dollars was for!" With the cash he had saved, Rick was able to acquire ten books.

'That's what the hundred dollars was for!'

LITERATURE EVANGELISM BOOK DONATIONS ALMOST DOUBLE LAST YEAR'S

On a hot summer day in Williamston, Rick forgot his hot dogs. "I only go to the store once a month," Rick said, so one can imagine how frustrated he was when he realized his hot dogs were missing. Since he rarely went shopping, Rick decided he may as well return to get his forgotten item. He wasn't expecting what came next.

As Rick paid for his hot dogs, the cashier asked him if he would like cash back. Rick never took cash back, but this time — "for some reason" — he decided to ask for one hundred dollars back. Rick left the store, one hundred dollars in hand, with no idea why he had it, or what he was supposed to do with the cash. Two days later, when Kim knocked on his door, he found out.

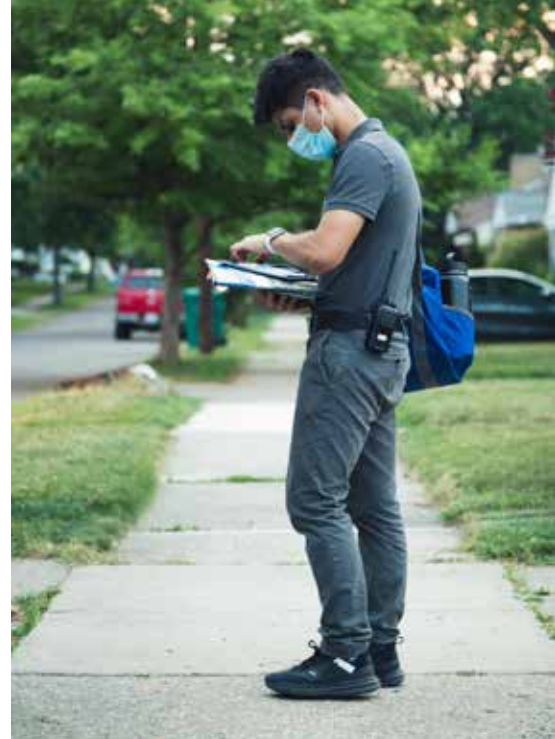
Kim was a student colporteur working with Youth Rush, a 10-week student literature evangelism program run by

the Michigan Conference's Literature Ministries Department every summer. Mission-minded Adventist youth across the United States dedicate their summer to spread truth-filled literature across Michigan. Youth Rush has been operating in Michigan for close to 20 years, but this summer has been very different.

Prior to this summer, many parents and students were concerned that any form of door-to-door outreach would be very challenging due to the presence of COVID-19. However, according to David Pano, assistant to Kamil Metz, the Literature Ministries director, "It has been the opposite."

"From week one," Pano shared, "book [sales] have increased immensely." To be specific, sales are 47 percent higher than in 2019, the most recent Youth Rush summer. Why? Pano explained that people are far more receptive than in previous years. There is a "spiritual hunger" in the community that Youth Rush students are meeting through truth-filled literature.

But community members weren't the only people impacted by Youth Rush this summer. This year, students participated in a special four-day intensive led by the Michigan Conference's Personal



▲ Donations are 47 percent higher than in 2019.

Ministries Department called Summer Evangelism and Literature (SEAL). This four-day training program, led by Mark Howard and Kameron Devasher, taught students how to win souls, give Bible studies, have devotions, and share their faith. SEAL had a particular impact on Samuel Calvelage, a student who cited the program as a significant factor in his decision to get baptized at the end of the summer.

But..., what about Rick? What did he do with the hundred dollars?

When Kim began to show him the truth-filled books she was carrying, Rick realized, "That's what the hundred dollars was for!" With the cash he had saved, Rick was able to acquire ten books, including *The Great Controversy*, *The Promise of Peace* (a compilation of chapters from *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *Desire of Ages*), and *The Answer Book*, which explains our 28 fundamental beliefs in question-and-answer format. Rick also signed up for Bible studies and has recently started attending his local Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located in Williamston, Michigan.

Canvassers like Kim meet people like Rick every day — people who are

searching for truth and ready to join His remnant church. But they also leave books with many others who are open to learning more, but not ready to act on it. We call those books, “seeds.” Sometimes we see the results of our planted “seeds” right away, but often another harvests for us.

In Marquette, in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, Jose shared a copy of *The Great Controversy* with a woman. When the woman saw it, she exclaimed, “Oh, you guys are back!” Confused, Jose asked what she meant. This woman explained that she had received a copy of *The Great Controversy* from another colporteur many years ago. “This book,” she told Jose, “has the truth.”

In addition to reading *The Great Controversy* herself, she also had been reading the book to her children.



▲ Many students from this summer may think nothing of a book they left behind, but God has already reaped souls from their efforts — and will continue to do so. With 31,428 pieces of literature scattered across the Lake Union from this summer, He has plenty to work with.

Although she was a devout Christian, the woman confessed to Jose that she didn’t attend church regularly because she couldn’t find a church that kept the Sabbath. Jose eagerly shared the address of the local Seventh-day Adventist church and signed her up for Bible studies.

Jose and Kim are just two colporteurs — two students — who took a summer out of their lives to serve God. Their efforts were blessed with success, but this is only a foretaste of the rich harvest of souls they will reap at Christ’s second coming. The colporteur who sold *The Great Controversy* to that woman in Marquette

won’t know the result of their faithful efforts until they get to heaven.

Many students from this summer may think nothing of a book they left behind, but God has already reaped souls from their efforts — and will continue to do so. With 31,428 pieces of literature scattered across the Lake Union from this summer, He has plenty to work with. ■

Judy Klein, Michigan Youth Rush canvassing leader

Videos at <https://bit.ly/3JtsLC>



▲ Chef Miguel Larcher (third from left) hosts the cooking show with his wife, Nadine (second from left) and Emily Graham (left). The show was conceived by Cadillac’s 13th Street Church pastor Robert Benson (second from right). Production help comes from Samuel Girvan (right) and Daniel Bailey (front).

Camp Au Sable cooking show continues with second season

GRAYLING, Mich.—Food can change lives. It can heal, injure, make or break

someone’s health. It’s a major part of our health message, and something that our church pioneered.

On that principle, the collaborative efforts of Camp Cuisine, a food ministry operated at Camp Au Sable by renowned

Chef Miguel Larcher and the 13th Street Church in Cadillac, Mich., has borne fruit: an online cooking show, titled “Home Cooking with Chef Miguel Larcher.”

The cooking show was introduced out of necessity. Pastor Robert Benson, pastor of the 13th Street Church, envisioned hosting a cooking class in his church and inviting the surrounding community to attend. But with Northern Michigan’s COVID-19 case numbers surging in early 2021, Benson was concerned about planning in-person events. As everyone learned during the early stages of the pandemic, if you can’t do an in-person event, you can always do one online! Girded with this concept, he shared his vision of an online cooking class with Chef Miguel Larcher, former restaurateur and food service director at Camp Au Sable.

Larcher is not new to the idea of cooking classes. He was born in Fort De France, Martinique, and trained in vegetarian cuisine in France. Larcher has

served in many restaurants and universities throughout France, Germany and the United States. Prior to coming to Michigan as the food service director for Camp Au Sable, he owned the famous Garden Grill Café in Wichita, Kan. He has conducted numerous cooking classes all over the United States and abroad, including South Africa and Botswana, and often receives requests to present at churches across Michigan. With Larcher on board, they launched into their first season of "Home Cooking" in February.

The demonstrations, held monthly, have been received well by many across Michigan and the Lake Union. Viewers span across the region and even into Canada. Notably, several from the local community in Grayling and Cadillac also have tuned in. "We have cultivated a following that has a much broader region than what was

originally anticipated when we first started planning!" exclaimed Benson.

Each show features a different dish and health focus, and provides sage, practical health lectures by Nadine Larcher, nurse practitioner student, during the cooking intermission. "It's always exciting to see what we are going to do each month!" says Emily Graham, co-host and cooking student. "We always have a lot of fun doing this, and we hope our viewers have just as much fun."

Another important aspect of health is spiritual health. At the beginning of each episode, Benson presents a lesson that relates to the spiritual aspect of health. It's an essential element to all things, and is even more relevant with health. "At the end of the day, if we aren't introducing people to a personal and saving relationship with the One who created our bodies

for good health, we are wasting our time." Benson noted.

After a short summer hiatus, the show returned to live production for its second season on September 7. "We're really excited to be back!" Larcher said, a sentiment echoed by the rest of the production team. They have planned breakfast courses for the first few episodes of this season, such as Larcher's famous scrambled breakfast tofu, roasted rosemary potatoes, and more.

You can find out more information about Camp Cuisine or watch previous episodes of "Home Cooking" by visiting their website, www.campcuisine.org. You also can find them on YouTube and Facebook. ■

Samuel Girven, associate producer, production director



▲ Knowing that parents are always looking for ways to enroll their children in programs to enhance their development, the church-sponsored event targeted children between the ages of 6 and 15 years old, along with their families.

Indiana church wins over community with youth triathlon

The New Albany Church hosted a successful youth triathlon on Sunday, July 25, which provided an opportunity to mingle with a wide cross-section of their southern Indiana community who received

free bikes and learned God-given health principles.

"This created an opportunity to reach the whole community," says the triathlon lead organizer Jenni Allen. "When we go back to the community, they will remember us as the church that hosted a triathlon for the community and will be open to other things."

Knowing that parents are always looking for ways to enroll their children in programs to enhance their development, the church-sponsored event targeted children between the ages of 6 and 15 years old, along with their families.

Following the event that attracted 43 community youth, the church hosted an appreciation Sabbath when several families testified to the impact of the program. Kristen, a mother of three, stood up during the Sabbath service and said, "It was the best program my children have ever attended!"

PLANNING THE EVENT

The idea to host the race was sparked when Jenni heard an AudioVerse presentation from Michigan Conference pastor E.J. Wolf discussing the triathlon he hosted and the opening it provided to mingling with the community. Jenni was intrigued and decided to give it a spin. She learned a lot along the way, including that hosting a youth triathlon was no easy task, but well worth the effort.

First, there was finding sponsors for the kids. Those generous donations would pay for the bikes, shirts, medals, banners, etc. This connected the church with businessowners. Then came the task of spreading the word about the event. With \$220 of Facebook advertising, the number of race-day participants the organizers could accommodate was reached. The church couldn't host more than a certain number of children because of the YMCA pool limits. "It was hard turning away families who really wanted to join in the summer fun," says Jenni.

With the sponsors, children, venues for the event, and permission from the city to close a road down, it was time to train.

WEEKLY TRAINING

Over 40 children met for seven weeks to practice their swimming, biking and running skills. It was emphasized that the race for which they were preparing was not against others but against themselves. Thus, the kids were to try to beat the prior week's records. It wasn't about competition, but about health and fun.

But before the physical, came the mental and spiritual training. The church's pastor, Wyatt Allen, offered a short message on God's natural remedies, using the Weimar NEWSTART acronym, and its spiritual lessons. While the children were

sweating, the parents and many of the volunteers were connecting and collectively rooting the children on.

To qualify for the free bike required faithful attendance, keeping a home training log and the expectation of completing the race. When it was time to pick up their free bikes at Walmart a few days before the big event, it was a delightful scene. "Oh, to see the joy and smiles on their faces," says Wyatt. "They earned it. Their summer of hard work and discipline was paying off!"

RACE DAY

Race day was a buzz of activity, with much of the church arriving early to set everything up. Two news crews showed up and carried the story on their evening programs. Onlookers marveled to see so many young people pushing themselves in 90-degree-plus weather. Others asked on the spot how to get their kids involved next year. Volunteer coaches beamed as they saw their triathletes pushing themselves harder than they had seen before. Parents, grandparents, friends and many church members were lining the track as their young person raced towards the finish line. Some were crying, some smiling, some were shouting for victory as they crossed the finish line!

Photography by Skip Russel & Danielle Haub



▲ Over 40 children met for seven weeks to practice their swimming, biking and running skills. It was emphasized that the race for which they were preparing was not against others but against themselves.

For more information about the youth triathlon, please visit <https://youthtriathlon.net/> or the New Albany Triathlon Facebook page. ■

Lake Union Herald staff





▲ Wisconsin ACS director Alice Garrett (pictured right in blue), noted, "When we look at the vast number of 12,600 people, we ask, 'How can we possibly even make a dent in this vast endeavor? Our 189 boxes were just a drop in the bucket.' But when we take the attitude that each one of us will reach one, the job was finished in a month! We serve a Big God!"

Wisconsin gives Afghans a warm welcome

The desperate airlift out of Kabul had barely kicked into gear last month when a call went out to the State of Wisconsin's Volunteer Organization Active in Disaster group. The sudden collapse of the Afghan government meant there was an urgent need for clothing to help the displaced Afghans arriving with only what they had on them.

Alice Garrett, the Wisconsin Adventist Community Services director, eventually learned 12,600 were arriving at Fort McCoy, an army base some 170 miles from Milwaukee, where the refugees would be processed before most were dispersed to other states.

Garrett sent an email to the Wisconsin pastors and Adventist churches asking for new clothes for men, women and children. It was decided to try to get necessities such as underwear, socks and other new clothing by September 9. As it was also Labor Day weekend, it was very short notice.

"The response was overwhelming," said Garrett. "The pastors and members responded, and we delivered 95 boxes with an estimate of 2,000 items. What a blessing!"

Since the need was still great, a decision was made to organize another

clothing drive, this time for a longer period. On September 10, Garrett dashed off another email to the pastors, ACS leaders and certified volunteers to start another collection, this time focusing on winter clothing, such as jackets, boots and warm sweatshirts. The plan was to close the drive on September 27 to deliver on September 30.

Once again, a crush of items came in. Volunteers sorted about 1,300 items and packaged the goods in 94 boxes, labeled with the contents. This brought the total to 189 boxes and 3,300 items collected in just one month.

Garrett noted, "When we look at the vast number of 12,600 people, we ask, 'How can we possibly even make a dent in this vast endeavor? Our 189 boxes were just a drop in the bucket.' But when we take the attitude that each one of us will reach one, the job was finished in a month! We serve a Big God!"

During this period, over \$10,000 in monetary donations was received from Wisconsin church members, as well as from individuals in Michigan and Minnesota. "Every penny will go to help these people," said Garrett. "We have and are continuing to purchase what is the immediate need and that includes a lot of winter coats, underwear, toddlers' clothes and infant formula."



SMOOTH OPERATION

Garrett and the other ACS volunteers have drawn the attention of others.

"As we finished unloading the trailer at the armory," said Garrett, "the volunteers [from another organization helping with the donations management] came over to us and said, 'Thank you for your load. It is all sorted and labeled, and we can send it on to Fort McCoy right away.'"

The North American Division has noticed the smooth operation in Wisconsin. Derrick Lea, Adventist Community Services director, said that Garrett and her team continues to lead ACS efforts in this area [of organizing aid for Afghans]. "It's the relationships that have been developed previously that enable us to be engaged within our community when crisis events take place," said Lea. "I rely on Alice and her team of dedicated team members to rally our church members to respond when calls for help go out. It's a privilege to work with those willing to be the hands and feet of Jesus in their local communities."

As of September 29, more than 300,000 clothing items had been processed at the armory which was a value of about \$2.8 million. At this point, no more clothing will be collected as Fort McCoy is transitioning into resettlement and relocation of the refugees.

Approved number for the first set of refugees headed to our area are: Michigan 1,300; Illinois - 860; Indiana - 490; Wisconsin - 399 (Source U.S. State Dept. data). ■

Alice Garrett, with Lake Union Herald staff

Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at www.lakeunion-herald.org. Conference addresses and phone numbers are listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

BIRTHDAY



MaryEtta Johnson of the Hammond Church in Hammond, Ind., celebrated her 100th birthday with a luncheon and birthday party after the church's regular worship service on Saturday, September 11. Relatives traveled from as far away as Louisiana to attend the celebration that honored the life and accomplishments of the new centurion.

Living in East Chicago, MaryEtta has been an elder at the Hammond Church for more than 20 years. She was previously a Sabbath School leader at the Bethel Church in East Chicago.

OBITUARIES

ANZURES, Andres B., age 82; born Oct. 28, 1938, in Monterrey, Mex; died Sept. 25, 20021, in Pontiac, Mich. He was a member of the Waterford Riverside Church in Waterford, Mich. Survivors include his wife, Lydia (Delgado) Anzures; sons, Daniel Anzures, and Andrew (Michelle) Anzures; daughters, Diana (Erich) Swoboda, Deborah Anzures, and Anita (Tom) Jezerski; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Todd Ervin; interment was in Perry Mount Park Cemetery in Pontiac, Mich.

BROCK, Joanne, age 73; born July 2, 1948, in Muskegon, Mich.; died Sept. 5, 2021, in Portage, Wis. She was a member of the Wisconsin Academy Church in Columbus, Wis. Survivors include her husband, Floyd

Brock; sons, Jeff (Christine) Brock, and Greg Brock; daughters, Dawn (Kevin) Mortimer, and Michelle (David) Grady; brother, Ray (Kim) McKinnon; sisters, Joyce (Dan) Grey, and Joan (Mike) Wambaugh; brother-in-law, Norm Wood; sisters-in-law, Sylvia (Jim) Brock, Kathy (Dan) Spicer, and Marlo McKinnon; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial services were held at Wisconsin Academy Chapel; interment.

CASWELL, Colores E. "Dee" (Pittenger), age 89; born June 28, 1932, in Rose Center, Mich.; died Aug. 14, 2021, in Fenton, Mich. She was a member of the Fenton Adventist Church in Fenton. Survivors include her husband, Bruce Caswell; sons, David Caswell, Gary Caswell, and Danny Caswell; daughter, Diane Caswell; brothers, Richard Pittenger, and Don Pittenger; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at Rose Center Cemetery in Fenton.

CHAD, Barbara Ann (Fox), age 82; born March 23, 1939, in Blue Earth, Minn.; died April 28, 2021, in Fenton, Mich. She was a member of the Fenton Adventist Church in Fenton. Survivors include her husband, John Chad; sons, Brian Shultz, Rodney Shultz, and Zachary Shultz; step-son, John Chad; daughters, Robin Jedd, and Amy Imperio; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton.

KACHELMEIER, Rosella M. (Leitzke), age 99; born Aug. 21, 1921, in Milwaukee, Wis., died April 26, 2021, in Appleton, Wis. She was a member of the Milwaukee Central Church in Milwaukee. Survivors include her daughters, Diane (Maynard) Morauske, and Joan (Paul) Cinquemani; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Private funeral services were held; interment was in Wisconsin Memorial Park Cemetery in Brookfield, Wis.

KLEMP, Beverly R. (Price), age 77; born Jan. 3, 1944, in Green Bay, Wis.; died Sept. 22, 2021, in Rhinelander, Wis. She was a member of the Clearwater Lake Church in Eagle River, Wis.

Survivors include sons, Farron Crabtree, and George Crabtree; stepsons, James Crabtree, Robin Crabtree, and Dale Crabtree; daughter, Norma (Crabtree) Garski; stepdaughters, Rae Jean Klemp, Bonnie (Crabtree) McCurley, and Donna (Crabtree) Smith; sister, Michalene Korman; and three grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted William J. Trosien; interment was in Rolling Cemetery, Rolling, Wis.

KUBECKA, Sharon (Kidd), age 85; born Sept. 17, 1935, in Wauwatosa, Wis.; died March 20, 2021, in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was a member of the Freeport Adventist Church in Freeport, Ill. Survivors include daughter, Deeahn "Lisa" E. (Terry) Johnson; and two grandchildren. Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Gary Larson; interment at Highland Cemetery in Pearl City, Ill.

MAGEE, Edith (Hurlow), age 98; born April 4, 1923, in Grahamstown, South Africa; died July 16, 2021, in Apison, Tenn. She was a member of the Shelbyville Adventist Church in Shelbyville, Ind. Survivors include her husband, George P. Magee; sons, Graham H.P. Magee, and Robert W. Magee; daughter, Lynda I. Magee; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild. Memorial services were conducted by Eric Webster; private interment.

NORTH, Maye (Aerni), age 100; born April 7, 1921, in Trout Lake, Wash.; died July 9, 2021, in Franklin, Ind. She was a member of the Shelbyville Adventist Church in Shelbyville, Ind. Survivors include son, Nathaniel Dean North; daughter, Bracita Joy Magee; brother, Dan C. Aerni; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchild. Memorial services were conducted by Eric Webster; interment.

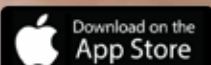
RATLIFF, Clarence, age 86; born July 4, 1935, in Monroe, Ind.; died Aug. 14, 2021, in Worthington, Ind. He was a member of the Ellettsville Church in Ellettsville. Survivors include his wife, Katheryn (Speer) Ratliff; sons, Keith (Helen) Ratliff, and Karl (Gina) Ratliff; sister, Rosalee Kent; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held; interment.

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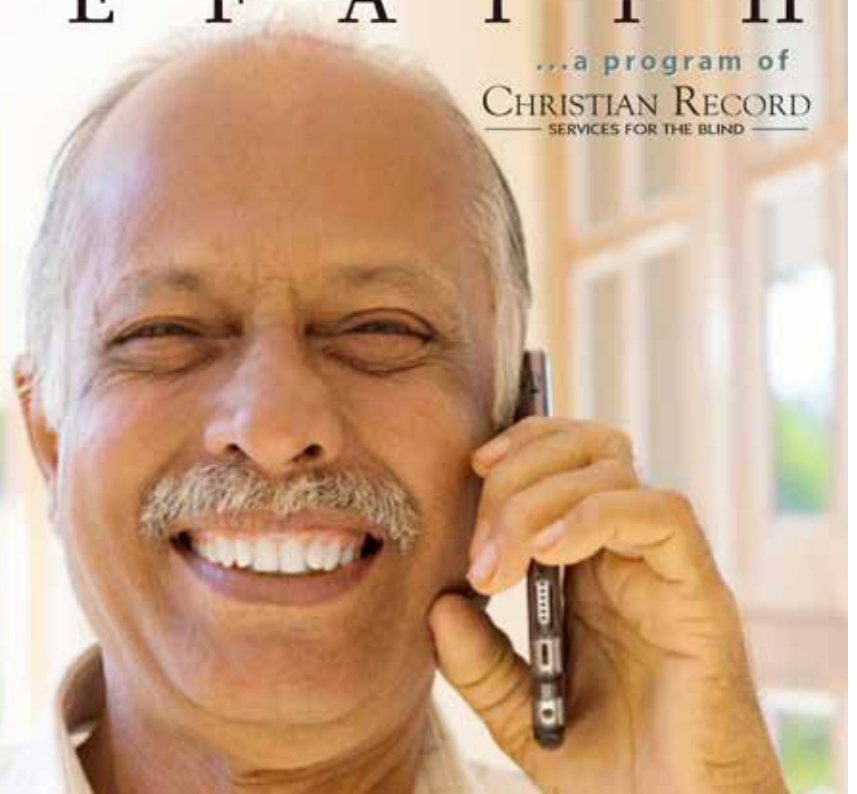
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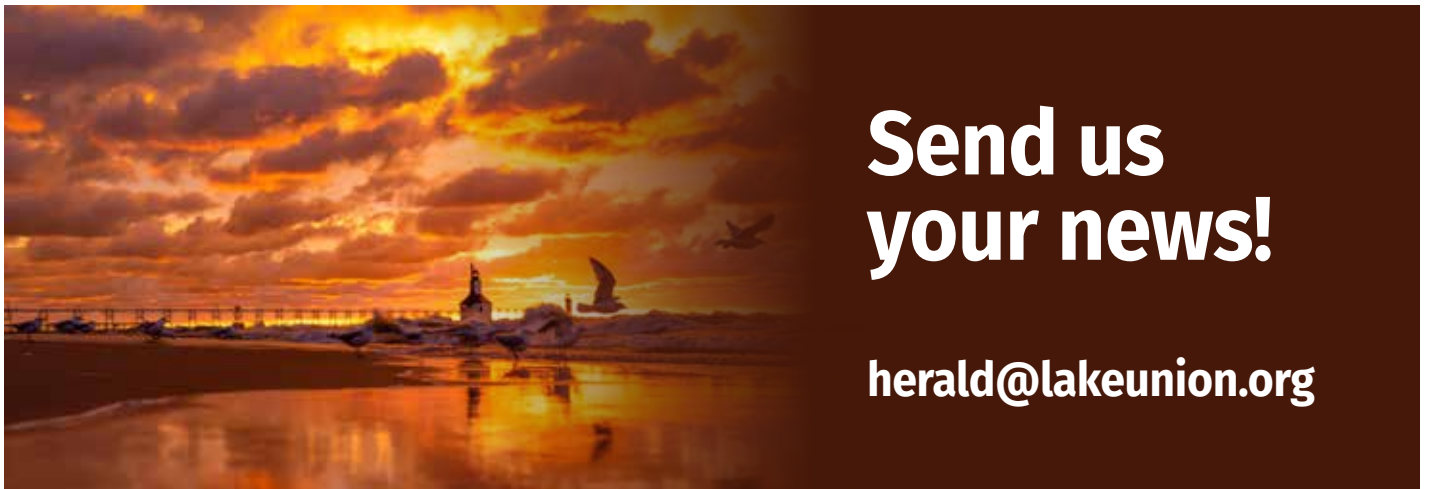
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Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Nov. 5	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Dec. 10	Dec. 17	Dec. 24	Dec. 31
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:33	5:26	5:20	5:16	5:14	5:14	5:15	5:19	5:24
Chicago, Ill.	5:39	4:31	4:25	4:21	4:19	4:19	4:21	4:24	4:30
Detroit, Mich.	6:19	5:12	5:06	5:02	5:00	4:59	5:01	5:05	5:41
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:37	5:30	5:25	5:21	5:20	5:20	5:22	5:25	5:30
La Crosse, Wis.	5:49	4:41	4:35	4:30	4:28	4:27	4:29	4:32	4:38
Lansing, Mich.	6:24	5:17	5:11	5:07	5:04	5:04	5:06	5:09	5:14
Madison, Wis.	5:43	4:35	4:29	4:25	4:23	4:22	4:24	4:27	4:33
Springfield, Ill.	5:51	4:44	4:39	4:35	4:33	4:34	4:35	4:39	4:44

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a green long-sleeved shirt, is lying down and reading a large, open book. He is holding a flashlight in his right hand, which is shining light onto the pages of the book. The background is dark, suggesting he is in a dimly lit room or at night. A white diagonal line runs from the top right corner towards the bottom right, partially obscuring the boy's face and the book. The text 'More to discover' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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NOV/DEC

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL EVENTS

- Nov. 6, 11:45 a.m.:** Honors Church, Seminary Chapel
Nov. 7-8: Junior Preview
Nov. 12-13: Andrews Autumn Conference on Religion and Science
Nov. 15: Health Professions & Transfer Students Preview
Dec. 2, 4-6 p.m.: Fall Honors Thesis Symposium (formal talks only), Buller Hall
Dec. 10: Feast of Lights, Pioneer Memorial Church

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER EVENTS

For more information on the following events and to purchase tickets, call 888-467-6442 or 269-471-3560, or visit howard.andrews.edu.

- Nov. 4, 7 p.m.:** Andrews Academy Concerto Night—Part 1
Nov. 6, 8 p.m.: Andrews Academy Concerto Night—Part 2
Nov. 12, 7 p.m.: Andrews University Voice Students Vespers
Nov. 14, 4 p.m.: Sunday Music Series: Duo of Hope
Nov. 20, 8 p.m.: Symphony Orchestra Thanksgiving Concert
Nov. 21, 7 p.m.: Howard Series Presents: Chi Yong Yun, Pianist
Dec. 3, 7 p.m.: Andrews University Singers Welcome Christmas Concert
Dec. 4, 8 p.m.: Andrews University Wind Symphony Christmas Concert
Dec. 11, 7 p.m.: Andrews Academy Christmas Pops Concert
Dec. 12, 3 p.m.: Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra Winter Concert
Dec. 16, 7 p.m.: Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Christmas Concert

ILLINOIS

- Nov. 5:** Young Adult Summit, Illinois Conference office, Willowbrook, Ill.
Nov. 13: Southern Illinois Youth Rally, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Office Closure
Dec. 3-5: Hispanic Pastors and Elders Retreat, Camp Akita
Dec. 3-11: Hispanic Caravan of Hope, various locations
Dec. 11: Hispanic Ministries Celebration, Chicago Central Hispanic Church
Dec. 20-Jan. 2: Christmas Office Closure

INDIANA

- Nov. 5-7:** Women's Retreat, Brown County State Park, Nashville, Ind.
Nov. 5-7: Adventurer/Pathfinder Leadership 2021, Timber Ridge Camp
Nov. 19-28: Indiana Academy Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Office Closure
Dec. 23, 27-30: Christmas Office Closure

LAKE REGION

- Nov. 13:** Ministerio Juvenil - FEHJA Friendsgiving, Chicago area
Nov. 17: Ministerio de Oración - Ayuno y Oración, various churches
Nov. 20: Ministerio de la Mujer - Bible Journal, virtual
Dec. 11: Ministerio Juvenil - FEHJA "The Oscars," virtual

MICHIGAN

- Nov. 12-14:** Marriage Retreat, Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, Mich.
Nov. 12-14: Personal Ministries, Camp Au Sable
Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Office Closure
Dec. 24-27: Christmas Office Closure

WISCONSIN

- Nov. 21:** Hispanic Women's Evangelistic Banquet, local in each church
Nov. 23-28: Wisconsin Academy Home Leave
Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Office Closure
Dec. 4: JAHWI Youth Rally, Milwaukee, Wis.
Dec. 23-Jan. 3: Christmas Office Closure



All classified ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$36 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$46 per insertion for all others. A form is available at <http://www.lakeunionherald.org> for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order or check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.lakeunionherald.org>.

EMPLOYMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS STAFF: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR COUNSELING & TESTING — In collaboration with the Director, provides leadership in the clinical services of the Counseling & Testing Center, including clinical supervision and the coordination of the clinical internship program. Available for after-office hours clinical consultations and student crisis interventions. Provides individual, couple and group counseling. Participates in outreach presentations to assist students in achieving more effective personal, social, educational and vocational development and adjustment. Maintains an assigned case load and provides consultations on issues related to mental health. Reports to the Counseling & Testing Center Director. **Must** have a doctorate (PhD, PsyD or EdD) in Counseling or Clinical Psychology with full license as Counseling or Clinical Psychologist or license eligible in the State of Michigan. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_2

UNION COLLEGE (LINCOLN, NEB.) SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR A BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE FACULTY — Doctoral degree preferred; master's required. This person will teach courses in Biology that may include General Biology, Immunology, Histology, and other courses. An interest in leading an undergraduate research team is preferred. See full job description at www.ucollege.edu/employment. Contact Debbie Eno at debbie.eno@ucollege.edu for information.

UNION COLLEGE (LINCOLN, NEB.) SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR A HEALTH AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE PROFESSOR — Doctoral degree preferred; master's required. This person will teach courses that may include Concepts of Wellness, Personal Training, Healthy Eating, Intro to Allied Health Professions, and physical

activity classes. Target date January 1, 2022. See full job description at www.ucollege.edu/employment. Contact Shawntae Razo at Shawntae.razo@ucollege.edu for information.

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TRAVEL

2022 GREAT CONTROVERSY PROPHECY TOURS, March 18–31 or June 17–29 with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt, retired prophessor of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Reformation sites in Italy, the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany, France. A most exciting experience! Call 269-815-8624, or email gctours@mac.com.

ISRAEL TOUR WITH PASTOR JIM GILLEY AND FRIENDS. November 17–25; \$3,295. Includes air; breakfast and dinner buffets daily; all tips, taxes. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles; other departure cities available. Call Maranatha Tours at 602-788-8864.

NOV/DEC

CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 6** Local Church Budget
- Nov. 13** World Budget (GC)
- Nov. 20** Local Church Budget
- Nov. 27** Local Conference Advance

DECEMBER

- Dec. 4** Local Church Budget
- Dec. 11** Adventist Community Services (NAD)
- Dec. 18** Local Church Budget
- Dec. 25** Local Conference Advance

CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS

NOVEMBER

FOCUS FOR THE MONTH

– PRAYER

- Nov. 1–30** Native Heritage Month
- Nov. 6** Stewardship Sabbath
- Nov. 13** Human Relations Sabbath
- Nov. 15** National Philanthropy Day
- Nov. 20** Welcome Home Sabbath

DECEMBER

FOCUS FOR THE MONTH –

CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY

- Dec. 4** Bible Sabbath
- Dec. 11** Prison Ministry Sabbath

She Didn't Believe, But God Heard Her Cry

I WAS PRIVILEGED TO BE PART OF HIS ANSWER.



▲ Heather Thompson Day

Several years ago, I was teaching a communication course on a college campus in Michigan. One particular student, Shatina, would always make her way to the back of the classroom. Most days, she'd put her head down on the desk and practice not making eye contact with me for the full 90-minute class.

I generally have positive relationships with my students, but Shatina never seemed interested in that. She didn't laugh at my jokes. She didn't raise her hand. She sat in the back of class and, when class was done, she left.

One day, as Shatina walked into class, a thought popped into my head: *"Give Shatina the money that is in your wallet."*

I wondered if this thought was from the Holy Spirit. But I didn't grow up in a church culture with a strong focus on the Holy Spirit so, over time, I think I'd taught myself to ignore such promptings.

"I can't just hand students cash from my wallet," I thought to myself. *"In fact, it would be inappropriate."* So I dismissed the thought as my own and taught my class as usual. When class ended, the students left, including Shatina. The second she was gone, a thought emerged in my mind again: *"You keep asking me to give you big opportunities, and you haven't been faithful in this small one."*

I still wasn't sure if I was talking to God or arguing with myself, but I knew the statement was convicting. I *had* been praying for God to use me. Now maybe He was, and I was ignoring the opportunity. I quickly checked my wallet and saw that I had a \$20-dollar bill. I ran outside and looked up and down the parking lot for Shatina but couldn't find her. I told the Lord that if this

was from Him, I had tried to be faithful, but apparently it was too little and too late.

But when I got back to work a week later, as soon as Shatina walked into my classroom, a thought entered my mind again: *"Heather, give Shatina the money you have in your wallet."*

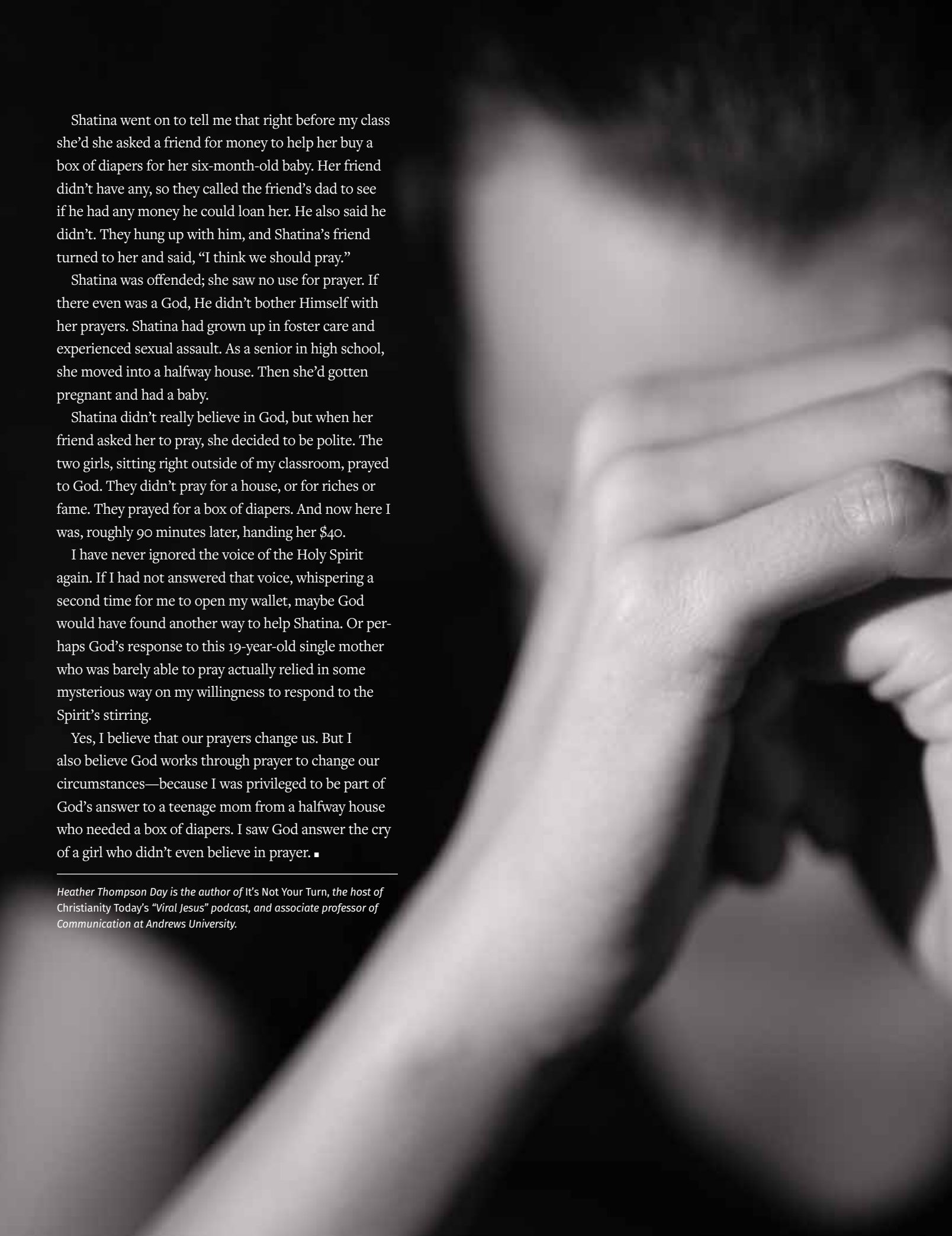
I took out my wallet and opened the zipper. This time there was \$40 sitting crisply inside. *"Okay,"* I thought. *"I'll be faithful."*

When class ended, I asked Shatina to stay behind. She looked incredibly nervous. We had no relationship, and this was about to get very awkward for both of us.

"I know this is going to sound very strange," I began while fumbling for my wallet, *"but I am a Christian. When you walked in here today, God told me to give you this \$40. I am so sorry if I am making you uncomfortable. This money is not from me. This money is between you and Him."*

I pressed it into her hand even as I felt nervous, hoping she wouldn't file a complaint. Her face went from confusion to complete shock. *"I'm a single mom,"* she said. I did not know this. She was only 19.

"Before I stepped into this class, I did something I haven't done in several years," she whispered, now with tears streaming down her face. *"I prayed."*



Shatina went on to tell me that right before my class she'd asked a friend for money to help her buy a box of diapers for her six-month-old baby. Her friend didn't have any, so they called the friend's dad to see if he had any money he could loan her. He also said he didn't. They hung up with him, and Shatina's friend turned to her and said, "I think we should pray."

Shatina was offended; she saw no use for prayer. If there even was a God, He didn't bother Himself with her prayers. Shatina had grown up in foster care and experienced sexual assault. As a senior in high school, she moved into a halfway house. Then she'd gotten pregnant and had a baby.

Shatina didn't really believe in God, but when her friend asked her to pray, she decided to be polite. The two girls, sitting right outside of my classroom, prayed to God. They didn't pray for a house, or for riches or fame. They prayed for a box of diapers. And now here I was, roughly 90 minutes later, handing her \$40.

I have never ignored the voice of the Holy Spirit again. If I had not answered that voice, whispering a second time for me to open my wallet, maybe God would have found another way to help Shatina. Or perhaps God's response to this 19-year-old single mother who was barely able to pray actually relied in some mysterious way on my willingness to respond to the Spirit's stirring.

Yes, I believe that our prayers change us. But I also believe God works through prayer to change our circumstances—because I was privileged to be part of God's answer to a teenage mom from a halfway house who needed a box of diapers. I saw God answer the cry of a girl who didn't even believe in prayer. ■

Heather Thompson Day is the author of It's Not Your Turn, the host of Christianity Today's "Viral Jesus" podcast, and associate professor of Communication at Andrews University.

Beauty in Death

By Zotu Hizoke

IT WAS A COLD, WINDY, RAINY AFTERNOON.

Just the perfect fall afternoon to stay cozy inside the comfort of your room, in your favorite PJs, with a blanket and comfort food. That was exactly what I would have loved to do but I had a class that I had to attend from 5:30 to 8:15 p.m. I'm not a fan of evening classes especially during seasons like fall and winter, the Michigan version.

As my dad and I were driving toward the university, I commented on how sad everything looked outside. The leaves that were once green and luscious were now brown, yellow, orange and red. They were dying!

Before the class began, my professor asked me how I was feeling about my first fall experience and I told her, it was sad (the experience). She chuckled and asked me why I felt that way, as fall is the favorite season for many people because of the beautiful colors the leaves bring. . . . "But what is beautiful about something that is dying?" I protested.

"The brown, yellow, orange and the red color of the leaves are just signs that life is leaving!"

Growing up in the tropics, I have always admired fall pictures and had planned on getting many such beautiful pictures when I could experience the season. However, when I got the chance, I never wanted to have memories of something that would remind me of such a dark feeling.

Looking back, my first fall experience was a reminder to me that winter was coming. . . .that death was coming. . . .when the trees would be bare and would not even be able to charm a bird.

So, what is truly beautiful about the process of death?

The whole fall experience reminds me of the death of Christ—Him, the Beauty of heaven, the Son of God, the Sinless One Who was betrayed, mocked, whipped, pierced, etc. We rejoice in that? How inhumane is it to find happiness in the suffering of someone as innocent as He?

But there were truly some beautiful moments surrounding the death of Jesus if you spend time to reflect on it. He provided the comfort His sorrowful mother and friend would need when He was gone. He forgave one of His most trusted friends when the friend denied his relationship to Christ. He offered hope for a man who was deemed not worthy to live and forgave those who had persecuted Him.

The moment I find the most beautiful is the moment when He proclaimed, *It is finished!* He had done everything He had to do physically for my salvation, and this was it. His mission was accomplished.

Because of His death, I have experienced grace and will continue to receive it.

To me, this is the highest form of love that no man—except Him whose essence is love—could give.

This is the beauty I have found in death—more specifically, the death of Christ.

I still want to experience the beauty of fall and

have now vowed to find it this season, so I'm praying that God will hold off the snow until we have reached the peak in the fall colors. ■

Zotu Hizoke, a native of Papua New Guinea, recently completed a master's degree in Communication at Andrews University.

Zotu received a \$100 scholarship for this article. If you're a youth or young adult interested in submitting an article for consideration, please contact: herald@lakeunion.org.

Rayno Victor



► Zotu Hizoke

Youth Multiply Blessings

By Katie Fellows



▲ Left to right: Chaeli Austin, Elizabeth Hokanson and Karise Francis

DURING THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE'S UPPER PENINSULA CAMP MEETING, SOME YOUTH WERE GIVEN A MISSION ALONG WITH \$50.

They were directed to “bless Iron Mountain,” the local community near Camp Sagola in Michigan. Taking to heart the parable of the talents, Karise Francis and Chaeli Austin found a creative way to multiply what they had received with their group.

“We took our \$50 and went around to the rest of the adults on campus to ask if they’d be willing to help us with a donation to bless Iron Mountain,” says Chaeli. “Only starting at \$50, we went to \$533, and that helped us in so many ways.”

After multiplying their offering, the group went directly to the Iron Mountain police station to see if they could donate to them or another place they suggested. The police station directed them to a local domestic assault shelter.

“We were able to buy many things for them: groceries, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies,” Karise expressed.

When the group returned, loaded with their donations, a volunteer at the shelter was

amazed and overwhelmed with gratitude and thanksgiving.

“We also were able to pray with her, and she just was so touched,” she recalled.

With some money still left over, they returned to the police station to ask if they could help anywhere else. Once more, the police station directed them to an auto body shop to help pay for people’s bills that they were not able to pay.

Before they left the station, Karise and Chaeli’s group thanked the officers with cookies for their service and gave them stuffed animals to put in their squad cars for when they helped children.

Arriving at their new destination, Chaeli greeted the people at the desk and explained what they wanted to do.

“The guy looked at me and said, ‘You want to do what?’” Chaeli recalled. “Because who helps with that these days?”

They began discussing which car owner could use some help and decided on a woman on disability named Mary. Since the beginning of the year, Mary had been saving up for a \$600 car part. Now in September, she had stopped at the shop earlier that day only to realize she was still short the needed amount.

“Such an opportunity! We were able to help out with \$200 towards her bill,” says Chaeli.

“Not only was it so fun for us to bless her, but they were just amazed that someone would be willing to help someone they didn’t know. I know it’s such a blessing and so much fun to be able to serve and to just give to the community. And it’s a blessing, especially to other young people who are on fire for Christ.” ■

Katie Fellows, Lake Union Communication assistant

Lake Union HERALD

Official publication of the
Seventh-day Adventist Church/Lake Union Headquarters
<http://herald.lakeunion.org> Vol. 113, No. 9

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Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index



Meet Maftuha Adem

Maftuha is a pharmacist at AdventHealth. She's also a volunteer for AdventHealth Global Missions, which offers team members an opportunity to live out our mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ and culture of generosity by extending care around the world.

Through the COVID-19 crisis, AdventHealth has continued to support our international partners. A major project in Peru helped acquire oxygen-generating plants for two hospitals. Donations of personal protective equipment and other supplies have protected staff and patients in countries around the world. Working together, we'll get through this pandemic.

Learn more at [AdventHealth.com/AdventHealth-Global-Missions](https://www.adventhealth.com/adventhealth-global-missions).